NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

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Message From Iowa President

Thirty-four years ago, when the ongress was an infant, and in our n state not even organized, Mrs. aac Lea Hillis invited the National ongress of Mothers (as our organation was then called) to come to es Moines, and, backed by her iends in women's clubs, succeeded bringing that Convention to Iowa. any of our members, living and orking today, date the beginning their education in parenthood, d interest in P.T.A., to their tendance at the sessions of that eeting. It was immediately followg this Convention that the Iowa anch was formed.

As this was true of those young omen and men who caught a great sion from what they heard at the onvention in 1900, so will it be ue of those who hear the talks and e discussions and the conferences our Convention in May.

Men and women, outstanding in eir lines of education and public ork, will be with us for a week, iving us the best in thinking and lanning, in all lines of progress in e programs that have to do with etter health, better homes, better chools, better plans of government, rograms of character building, best se of leisure time, and the many nterests which make up the proram of the Congress of Parents nd Teachers.

I urge you, if at all possible to lan to attend these meetings—make at your vacation week, if you ust, but be there if it can be arranged. It may be the most important week in all your experience.

—Mrs. Charles Pye, President Iowa Congress of Parents and Teachers.

Dr. Zook Praises N.C.P.T.

"I know of no organization which has exceeded in zeal and intelligent effort the work of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers in the good cause of education. A great many of the battles for education in recent years have been fought and won largely through the aid of this organization," said Dr. George F. Zook, U. S. Commissioner of Education, in a recent radio address on Education in the New Era.

"The very name of this organization indicates a great community of interest between the parent and the teacher in the development of the child for good citizenship in our great country," Dr. Zook stated. "It indicates further that the schools do not belong to the teachers and superintendents but are rather the common property and responsibility of all the citizens."

When You Go to the National Convention

Remember—There will be—

Nine addresses by outstanding authorities in the field of child welfare.

Five panel discussions on phases of the Convention theme.

Sixteen conferences on such topics as Membership, Rural Parent-Teacher Associations, Social Hygiene, Summer Round-Up, etc.

Seventeen classes in parent-teacher work, led by specialists in these fields.

Exhibits of material available to help in parent-teacher work.

If you are a delegate, you will be expected to take back to your group some of the details and much of the spirit of this great educational adventure. Come prepared to learn, to enjoy, and to remember.

88,000 Children In Summer Round-Up

If your child is under school age, he has only a fifty-fifty chance of being perfectly healthy, according to the findings of the 1933 Summer Round-Up Campaign of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. Reports from the 4,364 parent-teacher associations which carried through this campaign last year reveal that of the 87,797 preschool children examined nearly half were in need of medical care and more than one-third needed to see a dentist. This annual campaign to "send to the entering grade of school a class of children free from any remediable physical defects," aims to educate parents concerning the possible existence of defects, not immediately apparent, which might handicap their children in their school lives, and to encourage them to have such defects corrected before the opening of school.

In last year's campaign, 87,797 preschool children were given a physical examination. Of the 127,203 defects discovered, 88,081 were corrected before the opening of school. The most common defects were diseased teeth, tonsils, and adenoids.

Unlike the little boy who "had scarlet fever, mumps, and measles, found time to break his arm twice and suffer an infection of the middle ear" during his year in kindergarten, the children who are examined during this year's Summer Round-Up of the Children, and given needed medical and dental treatment during the summer before school opens, will be able to enjoy to the fullest extent the educational opportunities open to them.

• • • Convention Personalities • • •

A glimpse of the people who have been invited to participate in the National Convention shows why it will be an interesting program.

Jerome Frank, who will speak on the Forum program, is General Counsel of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, is author of a book, *Law and the Modern Mind,* and a frequent contributor to legal periodicals. Mr. Frank is known as one of the leaders of the socalled "realistic school" of jurisprudence.

Mrs. Harold L. Ickes, wife of the Secretary of the Interior, was born and educated in Chicago. She was President of the Chicago Woman's Club, and Trustee of the University of Illinois. She has served three terms in the General Assembly of Illinois. Mrs. Ickes is very much interested in the archaeology and ethnology of the southwest United States. She has four children and three grandchildren.

J. W. Studebaker, Superintendent of Schools, Des Moines, Iowa, is author and joint author of numerous works in the field of education. He is at present conducting an outstanding and original experiment in adult education, the famous Des Moines Public Forums.

Mrs. Clara M. Beyer is director of the industrial division of the Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor. Mrs. Beyer has made economics and labor problems her special field, and has had long experience in various phases of child welfare, both in studies for the Children's Bureau, and as Executive Secretary of the Minimum Wage Board of the District of Columbia. She is a representative of the Department of Labor on the Code Authority Organization Committee of the N.R.A.

Dr. Adelaide Steele Baylor, Chief of the Home Economics Education Service of the Vocational Education Division of the U. S. Office of Education, has devoted her entire life to the study and promotion of both general and vocational education. In her work with the Federal Government, Dr. Baylor has visited each of the 48 states, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, to render assistance in inaugurating and developing a vocational program in Home Economics.

Charles W. Gilkey is Dean of the University of Chicago Chapel. He has served as University preacher at most of the men's and women's colleges in the East, and has given lectures or series of addresses at nearly all of the state universities of the central and farther West. His Cole Lectures at Vanderbilt University have been published as "Present Day Dilemmas in Religion." As Dean of the Chapel, he has been specializing in the religious problems and life of students.

Dr. Willis A. Sutton, who will speak on "What Youth Is Thinking," is Superintendent of Schools, Atlanta, Georgia, and a former President of the National Education Association. He is one of the founders of the Rotary Educational Foundation, and co-founder of Camp Dixie for Boys and Camp Dixie for Girls. Dr. Sutton is National Chairman of the Committee on the Study of the Use and Effects of Alcohol and Narcotics of the N.C.P.T.

Anna Steese Richardson, who will assist in the Publicity Class on Tuesday, is director of the Good Citizenship Bureau of the *Woman's Home Companion.* Mrs. Richardson has written on topics of interest to women for many magazines, has conducted popular departments on etiquette, and has written two books on the subject.

Mrs. Max Mayer, Director of the Jewish Community Center, Des Moines, was awarded the Des Moines Tribune community service award for 1932. Mrs. Mayer initiated the youth peace movement in Iowa; the state legislative council for women; the home camp project; and is a promoter of the school of citizenship held annually in Des Moines.

Parent-Teacher Courses

During this spring and summer Mrs. Arthur C. Watkins, Education Secretary, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, will conduct the following parent-teacher courses and conferences:

April 6, District meeting, Norfolk, Virginia
April 13, Northern Section meeting, Morristown, New Jersey
April 14, Chairman, Parent-Teacher Association Panel Discussion, Junior Highschool Conference, New York University
April 21, Central Section Meeting, Plainfield, New Jersey
April 25, Institute, Altoona, Pennsylvania
April 26, Southern Section meeting, Ocean City, New Jersey
May 21-23, Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
June 18-22, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa
June 25-29, University of Florida, Gainesville
July 2-7, State College for Women, Tallahassee, Florida
July 9-11, University of Kentucky, Lexington
July 12-13, Eastern State Teachers College, Richmond, Virginia
July 16-18, State Teachers College, Statesboro, Georgia
July 19-20, University of Georgia, Athens
July 23-27, University of Maryland, College Park
July 24-25, Parent-Teacher Conference, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City
July 30-August 3, Connecticut State Agricultural College, Storrs
August 13-17, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Mrs. Charles E. Roe will conduct a three-weeks credit course at the University of Wichita, Wichita, Kansas, June 3-23. She will also lead conferences at the Colorado State Teachers College, Greeley, June 25-26, and at the Colorado State Agricultural College, Fort Collins, June 27-30.

Summer Round-Up Awards to be presented at the 1934 National Convention will be based upon units having the largest percentage of children obtaining dental and medical care, where children were found in need of such attention.

New Congress Publications

Our Public Schools, a new book ritten to meet the demand among rent-teacher associations for a mple but authoritative story of lucation in the United States, will : released by the National Con- ess of Parents and Teachers on ay 15. Edited by Charl O. Wil- ms, Fifth Vicepresident of the ational Congress of Parents and eachers, and Field Secretary, Na- onal Education Association, the ook contains contributions from any eminent educators. Single py, 50c. Quantity prices for roups. Orders taken now.

Home Play in Rural Areas and he Rural P.T.A., two new leaflets y Dr. William McKinley Robin- on, Chairman of Rural Service, are ow available for distribution hrough the state branches to Con- ess parent-teacher associations. ttractively illustrated and printed, ey contain suggestions for parent- acher associations in the open ountry.

Plays for P.T.A.'s

Plays for P.T.A.'s are now avail- ble from the National Office in imeographed form at 5c a copy, x for 25c. The following are ready:

- Membership Skit
- Our Home Night
- The Dean
- What One Man Thought of a National Convention
- Are Children Safe at School?
- Keeping Them Safe

An annotated list of available aylets, interviews, etc., will be sent om the National Office on receipt 3c postage. The Congress leaflet, ecreation Through Amateur Dra- atics, which may be obtained from e state branches, contains sugges- ons for putting on a play.

The next issue of the *Bulletin* will : the May-June number. It will be ailed out soon after the National onvention.

• • • Please Take Note • • •

Instructions about making annual reports have been mailed to all state presidents, state chairmen having corresponding national chairmen, and to state directors of departments. All state chairmen who do not have a corresponding national chairman are asked to send a report of the year's work direct to the National Office.

If these instructions have failed to reach you, please write direct to the National Office for information. The latest dates when reports are due are as follows:

State chairmen to National Chairmen, May 15

State presidents to National Office, June 1

State Summaries of Local Unit Information to National Office, July 1

State directors to National Directors, May 15

On or about April 1, the following service agencies will move to the Rockefeller Center, 50 West 50th Street:

Am. Child Health Association
Am. Pub. Health Association
Am. Social Hygiene Association
Natl. Comm. for Mental Hygiene
Natl. Org. for Pub. Health Nursing
Natl. Probation Association
Natl. Society for the Prevention of Blindness
Natl. Tuberculosis Association

Extra copies of the March issue of *Child Welfare,* the National Parent-Teacher Magazine, containing the valuable Highschool Symposium—a summary of information of parent-teacher associations in the highschool—may be obtained from the Magazine Office, 1201 16th Street N. W., for 10c a copy. 20% discount on copies ordered in lots of five or more.

Pan American Day will be observed on April 14, 1934. Mrs. A. H. Reeve, Chairman of International Relations, N.C.P.T., has prepared a pageant, "Americans All," for parent-teacher associations which is being distributed by the Pan American Union, Washington, D. C., for use by groups celebrating the day.

Remember World Goodwill Day, May 18.

State reports of National Standard and Superior Associations should be sent by state chairmen of standards to Mrs. Ross Finley, National Chairman of Standard and Superior Associations by May 1, on the form supplied for this purpose.

The Eleventh National Music Week will be observed on May 6-12. Plans and printed matter may be obtained from the National Music Week Committee, 45 West 45th Street, New York.

Mrs. Hugh Bradford, National President of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, is one of the judges in the *Ladies Home Journal* $1,000 Community Service Contest. Details of the contest may be secured by writing to the *Ladies Home Journal,* Philadelphia, Penna.

"Mothers and Babies First" is the slogan for the May Day-Child Health Day observance for 1934. "I am sure that many of our groups will be happy to cooperate with the May Day-Child Health program. There is so much to be done for these 'children of the depression' that it will require active and intelligent service," states Mrs. Bradford.

Mrs. Frederick M. Hosmer, Second Vicepresident of the N.C.P.T., spoke at the Annual Convention of the Ontario Federation of Home and School Associations, Toronto, April 3-5, on "The Technic of Organization and Administration that has Proved Successful in the National Congress."

New Books and Pamphlets

Group Activities for Mentally Retarded Children, A Symposium, U. S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of Education, 1933, 15c.

Education in the Recovery Program, Reprint of Articles from *School Life* on new government agencies and education. Office of Education, 1934, 10c.

Students' Guide to Good Reading, National Council of Teachers of English, Chicago, 1933, 15c.

Living Together in the Family. Lemo T. Dennis. American Home Economics Association, Washington, 1934, $1.10.

Guiding the Adolescent. D. A. Thom. U. S. Dept. of Labor, Children's Bureau, Washington, 1934—Free.

• • • News From State Branches • • •

News from State Branches has been made a regular feature of the National Congress Bulletin in the hope that activities, projects, and procedures reported in these columns will prove suggestive to other state Congresses. State board members will render a real service to their fellow parent-teacher workers if they will send occasional items concerning state work to the National Office for use in this connection. State, district, or council news is solicited.

Kansas

In preparation for the city government elections this spring, the Kansas City Council of Parent-Teacher Associations is sponsoring an educational program on the Kansas City charter. This program is not partisan in character, and has nothing to do with officials, members of the city council or any other officer in past or present municipal governments. No effort is being made to indorse any candidate for office. The plan is simply to give every parent-teacher association member an opportunity to understand fully the type of government in the city, in order that they may vote intelligently when they go to the polls.

Louisiana

The Parent-Teacher Observer, new official publication of the New Orleans Council of Parents and Teachers, has as its purpose "to make parents and teachers active, informed, cooperative figures in the education of the children of this city." It will contain information about the school system, its operation and support.

Tennessee

In order to point out to members of the city government how economies might be made in the school system without unjust cutting, the Knoxville, Tennessee, Council of Parent-Teacher Associations arranged for a series of interviews with the 11 councilmen responsible for preparing the city budget. Over a period of two weeks, each councilman was visited by representatives from every school in the city, who gave him the facts regarding school needs.

New York

The Annual Cornell Institute for Parent-Teacher Leaders will be held at Cornell University, Ithaca, the week of April 16-20. Eleven members of the faculty of Cornell will assist with the institute. Other class leaders will be officers of the New York Congress of Parents and Teachers and educators of the state.

South Carolina

In *South Carolina Education,* Mrs. John Wilson, State President, suggests the following ways of carrying out a hot lunch program in the schools:

1. Children bring from home such provisions as can be spared conveniently. These provisions are used in preparing the hot lunch for the whole group.
2. Each child brings to school a glass jar containing some food to reheat. These jars are placed in a pan of water and the food is heated thoroughly before serving.
3. Well-balanced meals may be provided by soliciting provisions from school families.
4. School earns money for hot lunches through entertainments, or charges each child a small amount to help pay for his lunch.
5. Mothers in the community take turns providing one hot dish a day for a period of a week.

Maryland

The Maryland state chairman of character education is introducing "Listen-In" Character Clubs, over station WCAO, Baltimore. The subject for each meeting afternoon will be presented in a 15-minute broadcast by the state chairman.

Oregon

When a new law was passed in Oregon permitting all groups with insignia or costumes to register with the state to keep their names from being used by outside organizations, the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers was among the first to register. Now all groups calling themselves parent-teacher associations in Oregon must be Congress units.

NATIONAL CONVENTION
NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
PARENTS AND TEACHERS
MAY 13-19
DES MOINES, IOWA
"The Future of the Forgotten Child"
Headquarters:
FORT DES MOINES HOTEL

Utah

Salt Lake City has a Mothers Chorus of 300 voices, 50 percent mothers and 50 percent teachers. This chorus is drawn from a school population of 8,000. Each school has a chorus which practices regularly, and the combined choruses of all schools come together at intervals for practice. The chorus will sing at the state convention next fall.

The Utah Congress of Parents and Teachers invites parent-teacher members in other states to listen to its weekly broadcasts over station KSL, Wednesdays, at 3:30, Mountain Standard Time.

Vermont

A list of speakers available, classified under the seven objectives of education, has recently been issued by the Vermont Congress to local units in the state.

Washington

A 15-minute daily program of stories for preschool children has been broadcast this winter under the auspices of the Spokane Preschool Council. Known as the "Story Lady," this program consists of selected stories, containing none of the "scarey" elements which have been objected to by parents.

Wisconsin

A very interesting piece of cooperative work in the study of education is getting under way in Wisconsin. The A.A.U.W., League of Women Voters, Federation of Womans' Clubs, and some other groups are uniting with the Wisconsin Congress of Parents and Teachers in studying the pamphlet, "Facts and Questions About Education in Wisconsin," prepared by Mrs. Hastings and Miss Emma Brookmire, and published by the Wisconsin Congress, in order that they may make a united effort to become informed about school affairs and be ready for an active session in support of education.